

and Josie, and I look forward to the Senate voting to confirm Judge John Roberts as 109th justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 7:49 a.m. on July 22 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on July 23. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 22 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

### **Remarks on Signing the Book of Condolence at the Embassy of Egypt** *July 25, 2005*

**President Bush.** Mr. Ambassador, thank you very much for having us. Laura and I have come to your Embassy to express our heartfelt sympathies for those who have lost their lives and our strong determination to stand with the Government of Egypt and the people of Egypt in rejecting this kind of violence and terror.

The people who struck in Sharm el-Sheikh killed Muslims, innocent mothers and dads, people who were trying to make a living. They have no heart. They have no conscience. They have no ideology that is hopeful. And they have an ideology of hate.

It was my honor to speak to your President, President Mubarak, and again reiterate my country's strong desire to stand shoulder to shoulder with the people of Egypt and bring justice to those who have killed innocent people.

Thank you for letting us come by.

**Ambassador Nabil Fahmy.** Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Mrs. Bush. I want to thank you both very much and very sincerely for coming here this morning to share with us in this moment of remembrance to the people who have lost their lives—Egyptians, foreigners—at Sharm el-Sheikh over the weekend. I think your presence here, your phone call to the President over the weekend, and also the many Americans who have been in touch with our Embassy in Cairo, reflect the nature of the relationship that we have together, as two countries work-

ing hand in hand for peace and stability in the region, working against terrorism.

As you are well aware, we were the targets of terrorism years ago, as you were on 9/11. And we continue to work together, resolute, to deal with this scourge, and ultimately, hopefully, to develop in the Middle East a region that is prosperous, stable, and secure for all.

I'd like to see this occasion to thank you both and, through you, all of the American people and to reaffirm our determination to continue to pursue terrorism without equivocation—and determination and resolve.

Thank you, sir.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:52 a.m. In his remarks, he referred to President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt.

### **Statement on the Launch of the Space Shuttle *Discovery*** *July 26, 2005*

On behalf of all Americans, I wish the crew of the Space Shuttle *Discovery* a safe and successful mission. Today's launch marks NASA's return to flight following the tragic loss of the Space Shuttle *Columbia* crew in February 2003. I thank the men and women of NASA who have dedicated themselves to putting our space program back on track. Our space program is a source of great national pride, and this flight is an essential step toward our goal of continuing to lead the world in space science, human space flight, and space exploration.

### **Statement on House of Representatives Passage of the Proposed "Small Business Health Fairness Act"** *July 26, 2005*

I applaud the House of Representatives for passing the "Small Business Health Fairness Act," which will increase the availability of Association Health Plans. AHPs are a fair, innovative, and commonsense approach to make health insurance more affordable and accessible, one of my top domestic priorities. By letting small businesses join together to

buy insurance at the same discounts big companies get, this bill will help workers and their families have more health care choices and obtain greater savings. This change is overdue, and I urge the Senate to follow the House's lead and pass this good legislation this year.

NOTE: The statement referred to H.R. 525.

**Proclamation 7915—Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 2005**

*July 26, 2005*

*By the President of the United States of America*

**A Proclamation**

On July 26, 1990, President George H. W. Bush signed into law the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This historic legislation provides a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities. The ADA reflects our Nation's faith in the promise of all individuals and helps to ensure that our Nation's opportunities are more accessible to all.

The ADA has been a great success in expanding opportunity for disabled Americans. By reducing barriers and changing perceptions, the ADA has increased participation in community life and given greater hope to millions of Americans.

Because of the ADA, individuals with disabilities are better able to develop skills for school, work, and independent living. Our Nation has more to do to further the goals of the ADA. Through the New Freedom Initiative, my Administration is building on the progress of the ADA to increase the use of technology and expand educational and employment opportunities. We are promoting the development and dissemination of assistive and universally designed technology. We have launched DisabilityInfo.gov, an online resource of programs and technology relevant to the daily lives of people with disabilities and their families, employers, service providers, and other community members. We also require electronic and information

technologies used by the Federal Government to be accessible to people with disabilities. To ensure that no child with a disability is left behind, I have requested \$11.1 billion for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act in my FY 2006 budget—\$4.7 billion above the FY 2001 level. The Department of Education is seeking new and effective ways for students with disabilities to learn. My Administration is also working to educate employers on ADA requirements and further assisting persons with disabilities by implementing the "Ticket to Work" program and strengthening training and employment services at One-Stop Career Centers. Through all of these efforts, we are helping individuals with disabilities have the opportunity to live and work with greater freedom.

On the 15th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, we celebrate the progress that has been made and reaffirm our commitment to fulfilling the ADA's mission of bringing greater hope and opportunity to our Nation's disabled Americans.

**Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush,** President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim July 26, 2005, as a day in celebration of the 15th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. I call on all Americans to celebrate the many contributions individuals with disabilities have made to our country, and I urge our citizens to fulfill the promise of the ADA to give all people the opportunity to live with dignity, work productively, and achieve their dreams.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-sixth day of July, in the year of our Lord two thousand five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirtieth.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 9:45 a.m., July 28, 2005]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on July 29.